

Message Text

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67

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 /022 W

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R 221651Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4755

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: IREX JUNIOR SCHOLAR EXCHANGE

REF: (A) MOSCOW 13042

(B) STATE 197289

1. AS REPORTED PARA FOUR REF A., US GRANTEES HAVE NOW RECEIVED STIPENDS OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTEEN RUBLES FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.
2. DURING CALL BY EMBOFFS SEPTEMBER TWENTY-TWO AT MHE, BAZHANOV RAISED MATTER OF STIPENDS FOR SOV GRANTEES, POINTING OUT THAT CURRENT STIPEND TO US GRANTEES HERE BASED ON SOVS RECEIVING THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS PER MONTH, AS PROPOSED BY SOV EMB TO IREX.
3. MHE AWARE IREX WILLING TO GRANT DOLLARS TWO HUNDRED FIFTY STARTING NEXT YEAR. MHE INDICATES CANNOT CONTINUE TO GRANT CURRENT STIPENDS UNLESS IREX GRANTS ARE RAISED TO TWO FIFTY NOW AND THREE HUNDRED JANUARY ONE, 1976. BAZHANOV ADDED THAT MHE UNDER PRESSURE FROM MIN FINANCE ON MATTER.
4. EMB BELIEVES MHE ANXIOUS TO RESOLVE QUESTION IN COOPERATIVE

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MANNERSOONEST. BAZHANOV RELUCTANT TO REDUCE STIPENDS BACK

TO ONE SIXTY-FIVE FOR FEAR OF QUOTE DISAPPOINTING UNQUOTE
US GRANTEES.

5. EMB PROPOSES TO DELIVER AIDE-MEMOIRE TO MHE AGAIN
SUGGESTING DOLLARS TWO HUNDRED FIFTY/RUBLES TWO HUNDRED SIX
AS PER PARA FOUR REF B, WITH TWO HUNDRED/ONE SIXTY-FIVE
AS FALL BACK. WILL HOLD UNTIL REPLY TO THIS CABLE.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE SOMEWHAT AWKWARD AT THIS
POINT TO NOW REDUCE STIPENDS FOR US GRANTEES TO ONE SIXTY
FIVE, EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE BASED ON INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS
WITH GRANTEES THAT SUCH REDUCTION WOULD CONSTITUTE HARDSHIP.

7. ADVISE.
MATLOCK

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